

Application No. 10/053,739
Docket No. 01USFP710-K.N.

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 12-14, 16-19, 21-22 and 24-26 are presently pending in this application.

Claims 22 and 24 have been amended to more particularly define the claimed invention.

It is noted that the amendments are made only to more particularly define the invention and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, for narrowing the scope of the claims, or for any reason related to a statutory requirement for patentability. It is further noted that, notwithstanding any claim amendments made herein, Applicant's intent is to encompass equivalents of all claim elements, even if amended herein or later during prosecution.

Claims 1-2, 5, 8-9, 16-17, 19, 21-22 and 24-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Howard, U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2002/0024500.

Claims 3-4, 6-7, 12-14 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Howard, U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2002/0024500, further in view of Wu, U.S. Pat. No. 5,793,353.

These rejections are respectfully traversed in view of the following discussion.

I. APPLICANT'S CLAIMED INVENTION

The claimed invention (as defined, for example, by independent claim 1) is directed to a computer system including a display screen, a pointing device including a position indicating button thereon, the position indicating button being actuable to emit a beam of light and to output a position indication allowing signal, a position detecting unit detecting a position at which the beam contacts the display screen, and a processing unit controlling display of a cursor on the display screen, the processing unit being responsive to the single

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action of actuation of the position indicating button to move the cursor to and to fix the cursor at the detected position in response to the position indication allowing signal.

These features enable the display screen that includes an LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) and a position detecting unit to detects the position of the light beam based on a transmitting a portion of the beam through the LCD. The position detecting unit includes photodetectors arranged in rows and columns, each of which outputs a beam detection signal in response to the portion of the beam, and a processing unit determining the position in response to the beam detection signals. (Application at page 5, line 17 to page 6, line 1.)

II. THE ALLEGED PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

A. 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) Rejection over Howard, U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2002/0024500

The Examiner alleges that Howard, U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2002/0024500, (Howard), teaches the invention of claims 1-2, 5, 8-9, 16-17, 19, 21-22 and 24-26.

Applicant submits, however, that Howard does not teach or suggest, *inter alia*:

"a position detecting unit detecting a position at which said beam contacts said display screen." of claim 1;

"detecting a position at which said beam contacts a display screen." of claim 16;

"said pointing device to emit a beam of light, so as to indicate a position at which said beam contacts on said display screen," of claim 22; and

"said pointing device to point to a position where said pointing device optically contacts on the display screen," of claim 24.

Both the Office Actions of December 9, 2005 and May 16, 2006 reject the above portions of Applicant's claimed invention alleging support in Figs. 1-3 and paragraphs [0027-

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0032] of Howard. However, the Examiner in both Office Actions fails to describe what features of Howard in the above-identified figures and paragraphs actually teach Applicant's claimed invention.

Howard discloses optical emitters 32 are used to detect hand and finger motion based on reflected LED beams 34a detected by detectors 36. Howard also discloses, "a coded signal 30 can be sent by one of the light emitters 32...from housing 22 to base station 24," in paragraph [0028]. However, Howard fails to teach or suggest detecting a position at which the coded signal 30 sent from the optical emitters 32 contacts the base station 24, or the computer screen or display.

There is no other teaching or suggestion in Howard directed toward Applicant's claimed invention of, detecting/indicating a position where a light beam contacts a display screen, or a position wherein said pointing device optically contacts on the display screen.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests Examiner to reconsider and withdraw this rejection since the alleged prior art reference fails to teach or suggest each and every element and feature of Applicant's claimed invention.

B. 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejection over Howard, U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2002/0024500 further in view of Wu, U.S. Pat. No. 5,793,353

The Examiner alleges that Howard, U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2002/0024500, (Howard), further in view of Wu, U.S. Pat. No. 5,793,353, (Wu), teaches the invention of claims 3-4, 6-7, 12-14 and 18.

Applicant respectfully submits that since Howard fails to teach or suggest, detecting/indicating a position where a light beam contacts a display screen, and a position wherein said pointing device optically contacts on the display screen, therefore the

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combination of Howard and Wu fail to teach Applicant's claimed invention with respect to dependent claims 3-4, 6-7, 12-14 and 18.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests Examiner to reconsider and withdraw this rejection since the alleged prior art reference fails to teach or suggest each and every element and feature of Applicant's claimed invention.

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III. FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-9, 12-14, 16-19, 21-22 and 24-26, all of the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

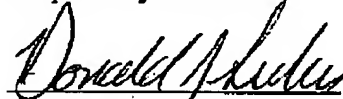
Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Date:

July 28, 2006

Respectfully Submitted,



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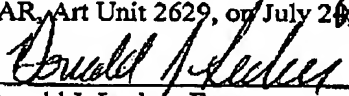
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I certify that I transmitted via facsimile to (571) 273-8300 the enclosed Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 to Examiner SHANKAR, Art Unit 2629, on July 28, 2006.



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